REMARKS

Upon entry of the present Preliminary Amendment-A the claims in the application are claims 1-12, of which claims 1 and 7 are independent.

The specification has been amended to overcome minor informalities therein. Also, new claims 5-12 are added which further define aspects of the invention and to add method claims.

Applicant respectfully submits that all of the above amendments are fully supported by the original application. Applicant also respectfully submits that the above amendments do not introduce any new matter into the application.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail Certificate No. ET986050195US in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 23, 2003.

oseph P. Carrier